

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 L-03 IO-13 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 SS-15

RSR-01 TRSE-00 /097 W

----- 082003

R 132149Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 546

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

USUN NEW YORK 517

UNCLAS CARACAS 6080

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CU VE

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CALDERA DOES NOT CONFIRM OR DENY REPORTED
VISIT TO CUBA

REF: CARACAS 6009

1. ASKED BY NEWSMEN ABOUT REPORTS CITED REFTEL, PRESIDENT CALDERA
JULY 12 ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IN SANTO DOMINGO AND VENEZUELA ACCOUNTS OF
HIS TRAVEL TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TO INAUGURATE STATUS OF BOLIVAR HAVE
BEEN PUBLISHED AND THAT HE HAS ACCEPTED PRIME MINISTER MANLEY'S
INVITATION TO VISIT JAMAICA. ON VISITS TO UN AND CUBA, HOWEVER, HE
SAID, "IT IS TRUE THAT THERE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED AND THAT THERE IS
BEING CONSIDERED, BUT NOT DECIDED, A TRIP TO THE UNITED NATIONS TO
EXPOUND VENEZUELA'S THESIS CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL JUSTICE...

BUT IN NONE OF THESE ASPECTS, NOR IN OTHERS THAT HAVE BEEN MENTIONED,
IS THERE ANY DECISION OR DETERMINATION."

2. ASKED ABOUT REPORTS OF TRIP TO CUBA DURING TOP TV INTERVIEW SHOW
"BUENOS DIAS" JULY 12, GOVERNMENT PARTY COPEI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
LORENZO FERNANDEZ SAID CONTACTS BETWEEN NATIONAL LEADERS ARE ALWAYS
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APPROPRIATE. HE GAVE AS EXAMPLE PRESIDENT NIXON'S MEETING MAO TSE

TUNG. HE SAID SITUATION BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND CUBA IS NOT SAME AS
WHEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE SUSPENDED. ASKED IF REPORTED VISIT
HAS AN ELECTORAL TINGE, FERNANDEZ ANSWERED, "EVERYTHING THE PRESIDENT
DOES THIS YEAR IS CONSIDERED AN ELECTORAL ACTIVITY."
MCCLINTOCK

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